

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
Mathews, Hallett H. )  
New Application )  
Herewith )  
METHODS AND DEVICES FOR )  
INTERBODY SPINAL STABILIZATION ) Atty Docket No. 4002-3449/PC466.02  
November 12, 2003

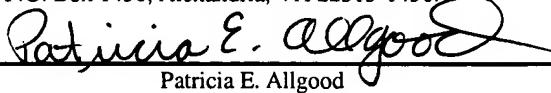
**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

With regard to the application filed herewith, please enter the following amendments. Please provide any extensions of time which may be necessary and charge any fees which may be due to Deposit Account No. 23-3030, but not to include any payment of issue fees.

"Express Mail" label number EL 984 269 385 US. Date of Deposit \_November 12, 2003.  
I hereby certify that this paper or fee is being deposited with the United States Postal Service "Express Mail Post Office to Addressee" service under 37 CFR § 1.10 on the date indicated above and is addressed to the Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Mail Stop Patent Application; P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

  
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Patricia E. Allgood